



Volume 77

May 2004

Issue 5

# HI-Q

## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

### LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Ray Forslund	VE3EDZ
Pat Doherty	VE3PD
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Bill Klemacki	VE3AJ
Bill Roberts	VE3ARN

### LARC EXECUTIVE 2003-2004

President:	Bill Unger	VE3XT 344-1848
Vice-Pres:	Mark Vaillant	VA3MVR 935-2205
Secretary:	Bill Klemacki	VE3AJ 344-1866
Treasurer:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW 622-1216
Directors:	Terry Stewardson	VA3LU 577-9439
	Fred Lesnick	VE3FAL 577-0789
	Brad Harris	VE3MXJ 767-0628
	Leo Wehrstedt	VE3ATC 939-1020
Past Pres:	Bob Hansen	VE3RVA
Editor:	Glen Wallace	VE3ICY 623-0135

### LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	MOUNT BALDY	147.060 (-600)	FP
VE3TBR	ST. JOSEPH'S	146.820 (-600)	FP
		442.075 (+5 MHz)	
VE3BGA	HILLCREST H.S.	145.450 (-600)	
		( IRLP NODE VA3LU 123.0 Hz)	

### The Prez Sez.....May, 2004

Well its time to make note of some local happenings. First two local hams got an honorable mention last month as volunteers above and beyond the call of duty. Our Senator Dave, VE3AVS was mentioned for his volunteering with the youth of the city to learn fiddling.

Another ham Randy Creighton was mentioned for his work with Friends of Thunder Bay Library. It's nice to see.

On a not so good note a new ham who just received his ticked a while ago is a silent key. Roger Palahnuk, VE3PRD passed away on April 7. Our condolences are extended to his family.

On a better note some of the locals wanted to check out the new hospital, Ken, VE3EFZ, Bill, VE3AJ and Terry VA3LU have all given the new facilities a clean bill of health and they also have the same. Thanks good news. Also Fred, VE3FAL has taken up the position of Emergency coordinator for Northwest Ontario. We wish him all the best and thanks to Norm, VE3XRC for his service of many years.

If you have a digital camera and would like to snap some photos of the LARC events, or if you have any concerns or things you would like to see at the meetings please give me a call.

**72 Bill VE3XT**

***Minutes of a meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club April 08, 2004***

Held in Room 191, Confederation College

- The meeting called to order by the President, Bill Unger, VE3XT, 20 members and guests present. After the opening greeting, the guest speaker for the evening was introduced. Bill Dickerson, Health and Safety Coordinator of Ontario Power Generation spoke on the hazards of heights.
- The problems of antiquated safety gear was illustrated, pointing out that internal damage can be extreme, and the user may not be aware of it. Leather was definitely out, as new materials were found to be more reliable, safer and cheaper, in the long run. A lot of members present are now having second thoughts of their own gear. The Miller body harness is the recommended piece to be used for all work at any height.

Various anchor methods, bodywear and connecting devices were illustrated. Fall arrest is the word. A very informative presentation and a wake-up call for all present.

- Treasurer's Report as presented was accepted on a motion by Glen Wallace, VE3ICY, seconded by Bob Gillespie, VE3BHN. Carried.
- Old Business: The 900- Mhz link to Mount baldy is back in operation, so the patch on VE3YQT is back in operation.
- A word of commendation to the Editor of High-Q, Glen Wallace, VE3ICY on a job well done.
- ARES: Randy Gottfred, VA3OJ reported that ARES information is now available on the web page, [www.larcclub.net](http://www.larcclub.net)
- Randy also reported that the Emergency Area of the new hospital will have a radio room available for us and also the Vice-President's Office was available. An antenna support and cable run were still being worked on.
- The Red Cross has requested a status report on what equipment, if any, is available at the three former hospital locations, General, McKellar and St. Jos. The antennas and cables are apparently still on site, but any radio equipment was never left at these locations. These were transported in when necessary.

CANWARN: John Sacek, VA3JMS, reported that there had been no snowfall recordings made all winter, and that training sessions would be held in Fort Frances, Kenora and Thunder Bay in May.

Emergency Co-ordinator: Fred Lesnick, VE3FAL is the new Emergency Co-ordinator for the City, taking over from Norm Bell, VE3XRC.

Dan Darling, VE3DWP, mentioned that he had noticed an obituary that morning in the paper that announced the passing of Rod Palahnuk, VA3PRD.

Bob Hansen, VA3RVA, in his continuing endeavours on behalf of the Club and the Mobile Communications Center, would have the Mayor officially conduct the long delayed opening of the Comm Centre, possibly at Hillcrest Park at a date and time to be announced. Discussion ensued then on a demonstration of Ham Radio, a party and a possible date, possibly in the fall.

The Inspector Morse mystery message contest was concluded with Fred Lesnick, VE3FAL and Ed Baumann, VE3SNW correctly identifying the musically embedded Morse Code in the TV show. The message? MORSE. The prize? Each winner was presented with a TIC Keyer by Bill Unger, VE3XT. Amazing where Morse Code will show up.

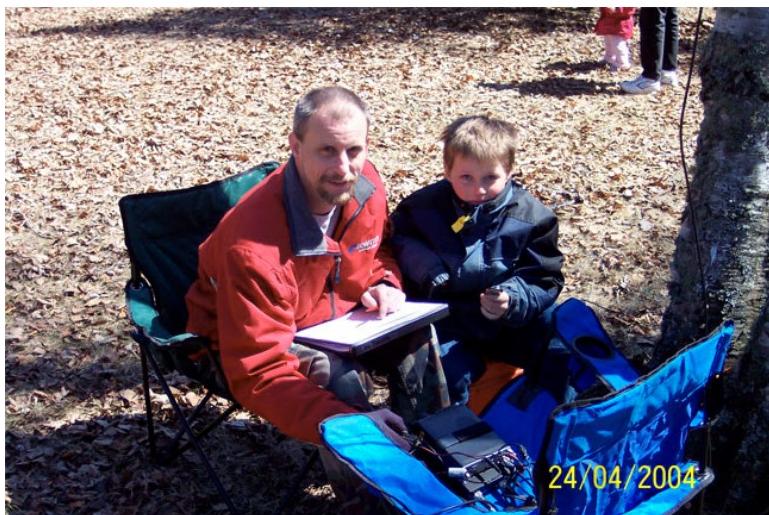
**QRPTTF**

In case your wondering what that cryptic heading stands for its QRP To The Field. This is an event put on by the QRP Amateur Radio Club International, (QRP ARCI).

Think of it as a mini field day that operates 6 hours and involves QRP only. It's also a knock off of Freeze Your Buns Off, without freezing your buns off.

This year we started it by having brunch at the Blue Parrot and planning out attack. Obviously if you're going to mount an expedition to the field planning is an important part. And we wanted to be ready. After a hearty brunch we went to our usual QRP field site at White Birch Beach on Boulevard Lake.

We set up 3 QRP stations this time round. Phil, VE3AXL set up his 817 complete with windbreak. This is not to suggest there was any hot air there! But Phil wanted to operate in comfort.



Fred set up his 817 as well with an end fed wire though a wire eating tree. It wanted to play games with him as he started his install and was not at to give back the end of the wire to him. After a little persuasion it relented and all was well.

I also set up my K1 to an end fed wire tossed through the nearest tree.

This leads me to my next thought. When I read about the “Radio Olympics” that they have they always seem to focus on contacts. Why not have an event that sees how accurate and far you can toss a bolt or some other heavy object! I digress.



24/04/2004

The operators that were there were VE3FAL and his 2 harmonics, Phil VE3AXL, Bob VE3BHN, Don VE3CAP, Dave VE3AVS, Norm VE3XRC, Linda VE3XLB and their grand daughter, and Bill VE3XT.



24/04/2004

We didn't make a lot of contacts but we did have a great deal of fun and some chuckles trying to get wires in and out of trees.

We plan to do this a few times this summer besides the "Big One" Field Day, if you would like to join us let me know and I will give you a phone call to remind you.

**72 VE3XT**

**Lakehead Amateur Radio Club**

Balance sheet - April  
2004

Account	Opening Balance	Debit Transactions	Credit Transactions	Closing Balance
Expenses (Direct)	1,520.09 Dr	65.99 Dr	0.00 Dr	1,586.08 Dr
Bank Service Fee	8.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	8.00 Dr
Classes	152.69 Dr	21.68 Dr	0.00 Dr	174.37 Dr
Club Insurance	851.04 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	851.04 Dr
Repeater	50.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	50.00 Dr
Maintenance				
Room Rentals	135.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	135.00 Dr
Secretary	57.45 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	57.45 Dr
Supplies				
Thunder Bay	265.91 Dr	44.31 Dr	0.00 Dr	310.22 Dr
Telephone				
Income (Direct)	1,703.00 Cr	0.00 Dr	24.00 Dr	1,727.00 Cr
50/50 Draw	63.00 Cr	0.00 Dr	24.00 Dr	87.00 Cr
Membership Dues	1,640.00 Cr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	1,640.00 Cr
Other Revenues				
75.15 Cr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	75.15 Cr
Deposit Interest	0.15 Cr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.15 Cr
Donation Rec'd	75.00 Cr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	75.00 Cr
Current Assets	3,893.94 Dr	24.00 Dr	65.99 Dr	<b>3,851.95 Dr</b>
Royal Bank	3,743.80 Dr	0.00 Dr	44.31 Dr	3,699.49 Dr
Cash	150.14 Dr	24.00 Dr	21.68 Dr	152.46 Dr
Misc. Expenses				
Annual Dinner	168.56 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	168.56 Dr
Donations To	23.15 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	23.15 Dr
Memorials	100.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	100.00 Dr
Web Page	25.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	25.00 Dr
	20.41 Dr	0.00 Dr	0.00 Dr	20.41 Dr

Note: Bank statement late - interest and service fees not shown

*Treasurer's Report Courtesy of Ed Baumann VE3SNW*

- **CANWARN**

Environment Canada will be holding Canwarn training in the following areas this month. Kenora - May 26, Fort Frances - May 27, and **Thunder Bay May 28.**

Training sessions will commence at 6:30pm until 9:30pm. Presenting from the Toronto weather office will be Phil Cadwick, and Paul Robertson, with Julie Turner attending at the Thunder Bay site.

I would like to encourage everyone to attend.

Thank you

**John Sacek - VA3JMS**

### **The Quarter Century Wireless Association's International Convention**

- takes place in Ottawa on October 15-16-17. **All Radio Amateurs** and friends are invited to attend. QCWA is an international association composed of a membership of Radio Amateurs who have held their license for a minimum of 25 years.

#### **Sessions**

Software Defined Radios for the Masses  
 Noise in Receiving Systems  
 Top Band Reversible Beveridges  
 Living with Your Neighbours or EMC(101)  
 Rechargeable Batteries  
 Field Day 2000  
 Illegal Antennas and Other Stuff  
 What's That Racket - HF Digital Modes 101

#### **Speakers**

Gerald Youngblood	<b>AC5OG</b>
Dave Conn	<b>VE3KL</b>
Bert Barry	<b>VE3QAA</b>
Ralph Cameron	<b>VE3BBM</b>
Dick Bonnycastle	<b>VE3FUA</b>
Brice Wightman	<b>VE3EDR</b>
Gerry King	<b>VE3GK</b>
Ken Asmus	<b>VA3KA</b>
Richard Bandla	<b>VE3CVG</b>

Truth and Untruth about Electrically Small Antennas  
 Amateur Satellites; Past, Present and Future  
 Moonbounce, Basics and Beyond  
 Super-Regenerative Receivers  
 Forums: QCWA – QCWW – RAC

Jack Belrose	<b>VE3CV</b>
Clare Fowler	<b>VE3NPC</b>
Ken Oelke	<b>VE6AFO</b>
Lea Barker	

For those who just want to see more of our Nation's Capital or are non-Amateurs, they too will find arrangements have been made for their enjoyment. The Lord Elgin Hotel, newly renovated and located in downtown Ottawa, is a great location situated just steps away from the Canadian Parliament Buildings. Within walking distance are the National War Memorial, the Centennial Flame, the Rideau Canal Locks and the National Arts Centre.

Shoppers have a choice of walking to the Sparks Street Mall, the enclosed Rideau Centre Mall or the Byward Farmers' Market. The Market is also the centre of Ottawa's night entertainment district, with restaurants, nightclubs, bistros, etc.

On Friday, there is a bus tour of the city followed by a Meet & Greet evening. Saturday begins with a buffet breakfast and concludes in the evening with the Annual QCWA Banquet. Astronaut Dr. Robert Thirsk **VA3CSA** may be our guest speaker!

Travel back in time on Sunday after brunch by taking a trip on a steam engine train. A short bus ride to the Quebec side of the Ottawa River, then all aboard for 4 ½ hours of entertainment while viewing the colourful countryside along the Gatineau River with a stop in quaint Wakefield.

Enjoy the camaraderie of others in our hobby. QCWA Chapter 70 invites you to join us in Ottawa at the QCWA International Convention!

**Place:** Ottawa ON Lord Elgin Hotel, 100 Elgin St. - Reservations 613-235-3333 QCWA Guest

**Registration:** Amateur \$20, Spouse/Guest \$5

Pre-registration required to attend the following -

Sat. buffet breakfast \$15; Sat. Banquet \$42; Sun. Brunch \$25; Friday City Bus Tour \$15;

Sunday Steam Train, 4 1/2 hr. up the Gatineau River Valley, Quebec \$53 (from and to hotel).

**Talkin:** 146.34/94                          More info at [www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org) or  
contact Donald Heaslip [ve3njh@rac.ca](mailto:ve3njh@rac.ca) phone (613) 727-2769

### **From Ed Baumann VE3SNW**

**Editor Says:** Thanks to the contributors this month, Bill VE3XT,ED VE3SNW,Bill VE3AJ,John VE3JMS.I Hope you are enjoying the spring and will see you at the next

**Meeting of the  
Lakehead Amateur Radio Club  
Room 191  
Confederation College  
McIntyre Building  
Thursday May 13 ,7:30 P.M**

**Glen Wallace VE3ICY**